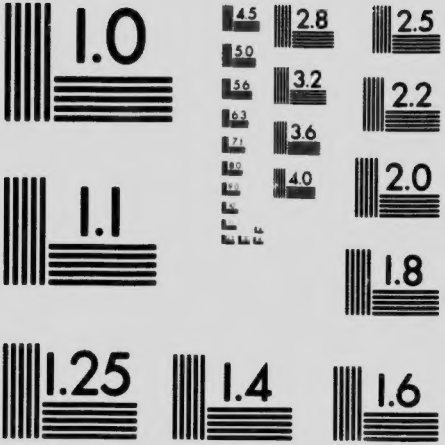

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A FORM OF PRAYER

for the

ROGATION DAYS

AUTHORIZED FOR USE IN THE DIOCESE
BY THE
LORD BISHOP OF TORONTO

TORONTO
The Church Book Room, Limited
1909

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ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
GENERAL SYNOD, ARCHIVES

NOTE.—*The Rogation Days (the three days immediately before this festival of the Ascension) were first instituted by Mamertus, Bishop of Vienne, in A.D. 452, at a season of special physical calamity, for Litanies and Processions of Supplication. They were observed until the era of the Reformation.*

The Church of England has appointed them to be kept as "Days of Fasting or Abstinence," doubtless as a period of preparation for Holy Thursday.

In the Second Book of Homilies is one provided in three parts, "for the days of Rogation Week," which fully sets forth the intention of this edifying observance.

ORDER OF

Morning or Evening Service

The usual order shall be observed, except where it is in this office otherwise appointed.

For the Sentences.

The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof.—Ps. xxiv. 1.

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it; Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.—Ps. cxxvii. 1.

Shortened Form of Exhortation, Etc.

PROPER PSALMS.

Pss. viii., xix., ciii.

PROPER LESSONS.

1st:—Deut. xxviii., 1-9.
2nd:—St. Matt. vi., 25 to end.

The Collect.

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, in Whom we live and move and have our being; Who dost good unto all men, making Thy sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sending rain on the just and the unjust; favourably behold us, Thy people, and send us Thy blessing from heaven in giving us fruitful seasons and filling our hearts with food and gladness; that both our hearts and mouths may be continually filled with Thy praise, giving thanks to Thee in Thy Holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Instead of the "State Prayers," read the following:

Prayers.

I.

O God, heavenly Father, Who, by Thy Son Jesus Christ, hast promised to all them that seek Thy kingdom and the righteousness thereof, all things necessary for their bodily sustenance; mercifully look upon Thy people, and graciously pardon our sins. O visit the earth, and prepare corn for the inhabitants thereof; crown the year with Thy goodness, and let Thy clouds drop fatness, that we may in due time enjoy the kindly fruits of the earth. Grant this, O Lord, for the riches of Thy goodness in Jesus Christ, our Saviour. *Amen.*

II.

O God, Who, to such as seek first Thy Kingdom and righteousness, dost promise a sufficiency of all things needful in this our mortal state; let Thy blessing, we beseech Thee, be on the increase of the earth, and on the labour of our hands, that we may eat bread without scarceness, and have to give to him that needeth. Preserve this land from the sore judgments which by our sins we have deserved; and grant that, being led to repentance by Thy long suffering and goodness, we may become a wise and understanding people, having Thee, the Lord, for our God; through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our only Advocate and Redeemer. *Amen.*

III.

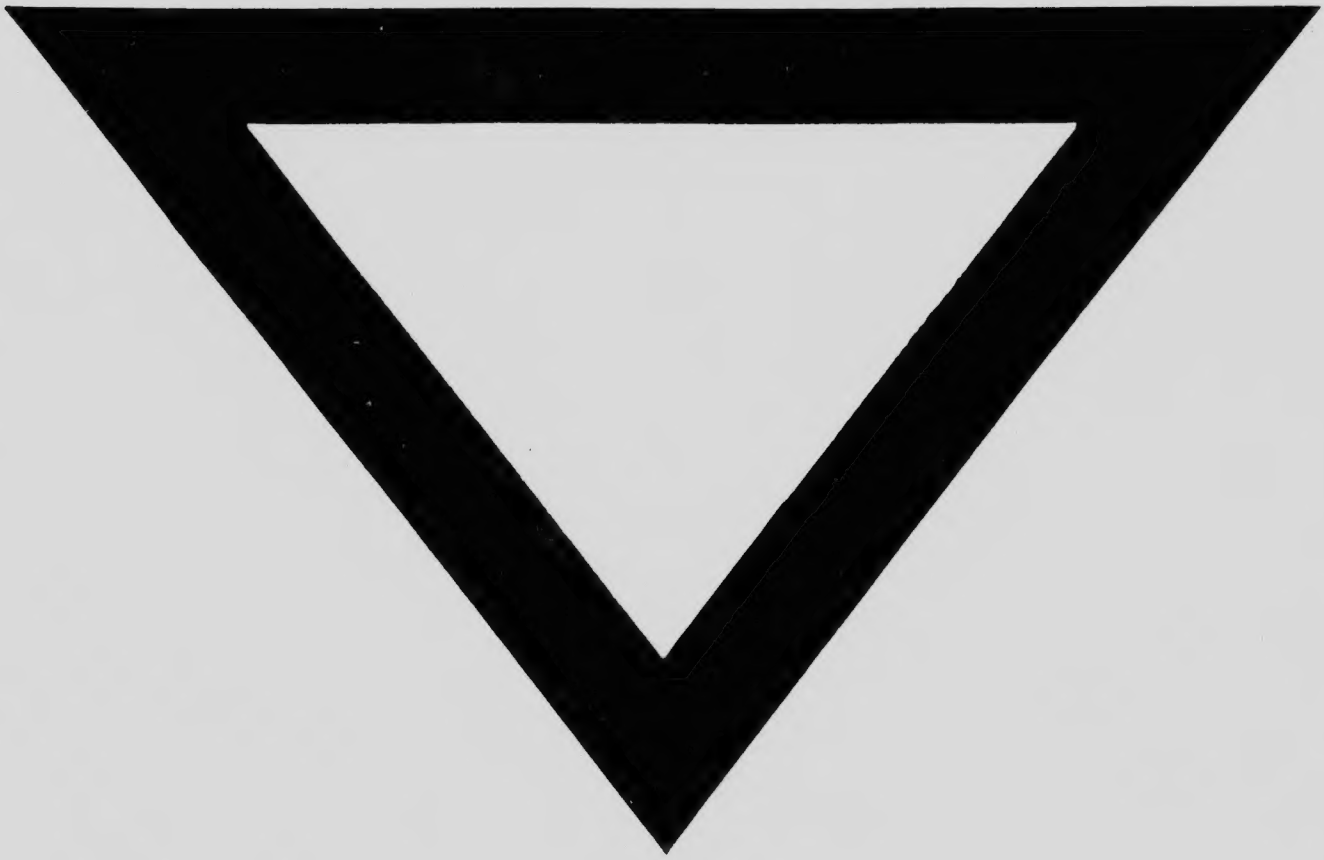
O God, Who by Thy Church hast ordained this solemn time of supplication for all our necessities, open, we beseech Thee, Thy gracious ears to the prayers Thou inspirest and drawest from our hearts; and by granting us those good things which Thy children, with humility and resignation, ask of Thee, their Heavenly Father, so encourage our devotion and obedience, and so increase our hope and love, that transcending and looking beyond all particular goods as safely to be trusted in the hands of Thy providence, our whole souls may thirst after Thee, and trust in Thee, Who art our all in all forever, through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, with Thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

IV.

O gracious Father, Who openest Thy hand and fillest all things living with plenteousness, we beseech Thee of Thine infinite goodness to hear us, who now make our supplications and prayers to Thee. Remember not our sins, but Thy promises of mercy. Vouchsafe to bless the lands and multiply the harvests of the world. Show Thy loving kindness that our land may give her increase, and so fill us with good things that the poor and needy may give thanks to Thy name. Deliver us from lightning and tempest, plague, pestilence, and famine, and give us peace in our time, O Lord. Above all fill us with Thy choicest spiritual blessings, that we may sanctify Thy temporal gifts, receiving them with thanksgiving, and may desire beyond all earthly things that Bread of Life, which shall strengthen our hearts and nourish us to life immortal: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In the Communion Office.

Instead of the Collect for the day, use the Special Collect provided above.

The Epistle.—St. James v., ver. 16-20.

The Gospel.—St. Luke xi., ver. 5-13.